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## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PANEL

WEEKLY SUMMARY NO. 6

For week ending 22 June 1948

Reported violations of Palestine embargo. Almost all UN members have promised to cooperate with the Security Council request for an embargo on the export of war materiel to Palestine belligerents. There have been recent reports, however, of Czech shipments of equipment to the Jews, almost necessarily with Government approval. The Arabs claim to have captured Jewish arms of Czech and Finnish origin, although it is not clear whether they were acquired before or after the passage of the original SC truce resolution on 17 April. Other indications of embargo violations come from France, where controls appear to have been lax. While the Foreign Office awaited clarification of Mediator Bernadotte's ruling on emigration, three vessels clandestinely slipped out of French Mediterranean ports carrying arms and about 1,000 Jewish DP's, most of whom were males under 28. Panama, incensed at the abuse of her flag, rescinded the registry of the first ship, the Atalena. The three hundred fifty passengers aboard the Marie Annic and the Italian Orchidea, were reported to have been lodged with a Soviet agent in southern France prior to embarkation. Should this be verified, it would indicate the extent of the facilities at the disposal of Communist organizations presently assisting the emigration of Jewish DP's.

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UK supports US Indonesian policy -- if any. While the Dutch maintained their wrath over the alleged impropriety of the recent US-Australian approach to Van Mook and Hatta on an Indonesian settlement, the US was encouraged by UK support for its position. In a note handed to the US delegation during an SC session, His Majesty's delegate wrote: "I am gratified to be able to report that our instructions...are to support the US delegation's attitude toward the Indonesian question. Perhaps one day you will tell me what that is."

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\*\* Complications in NEI case. Meanwhile, the efforts of the SC Good Offices Committee apparently reached an impasse with the Netherlands suspension of discussions with the Republic. Dutch representative Van Kleffens denied in the SC that this was more than temporary, stating it applied only to the political agreement and that negotiations on the progressive implementation of the truce were continuing. SC failure in this case would seriously reflect on UN prestige. An easing of the present impasse might be effected by the resignation of the ranking delegates, as suggested by the Dutch negotiator Vredenburg. There has been considerable animosity between Vredenburg and US representative DuBois.

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USSR veto likely on AEC report. Last week the SC began debate on the Atomic Energy Commission's majority proposal to suspend operations until "higher level" discussions evolved a political agreement. There seems to be little doubt that the USSR is prepared to use its veto to uphold a contrary position. This was intimated in delegate Gromyko's statement that the US resolution to transmit, with approval, all three AEC reports to the General Assembly was prompted "only by a hunt for more vetoes". Following the anticipated Soviet rejection of this motion, a simple resolution of transmittal would be in order. President El Khouri (Syria) has stated he would rule any such resolution to be merely a procedural matter (hence not subject to veto). However, the Soviet Union will probably contest even this.

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IC prestige on decline. A not too enthusiastic GA established a so-called Little Assembly or Interim Committee last fall to handle problems that might arise between regular meetings of the larger UN body. The sole specific matter so far to come before the IC concerned the Korean Commission. Consequently the delegates have been plodding along half-heartedly on projects to improve SC voting procedure and to establish conciliation machinery. The IC must now report to the GA in Paris on the desirability of continuing as a permanent body. So far the "Little Assembly" has turned out to be a theater without a play and there is little enthusiasm for its continuance. Nevertheless the opinion prevails that it will go on if the US so desires.

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Australia may attack US loan policy. Australia's Minister of External Affairs, Dr. Herbert Evatt, reportedly plans to lay some proposals before the next GA in connection with a protest against US policy opposing loans to Poland and other satellite states. This move would be wholly consistent with Australia's recent gifts of wool to some Eastern European nations. The proposed policy would also reinforce the anticipated Soviet attack on economic aggression. Evatt, who combines vigorous self-assurance with a confident belief in his own mission, has on previous occasions attempted to set himself up as mediator between East and West. Perhaps earlier rebuffs have failed to dampen his enthusiasm for this role.

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Soviet offer imperils Italian-IRO agreement. The Italian-approved plan of the International Refugee Organization to send 900 DP's to Germany in exchange for 2,000 Czech refugees from the US Zone has been imperiled by a recent Soviet move. The USSR has proposed to hand over some thirty Italian political prisoners taken in Northern Italy in 1945 provided all Soviet citizens claimed as war criminals or traitors under the Peace Treaty be surrendered to the USSR. The Italians are considering giving up thirty Soviet nationals now in Italian-operated camps and are meanwhile urging the IRO to remove the 900 DP's from the IRO camps.

The Italian Government, while willing to delay action on the Soviet proposal, wants the Czech-IRO exchange to be completed promptly to avoid unfavorable reaction from the Italian public which might be led to believe the Government was refusing an exchange involving Italians held in the USSR.

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Some ERP goods available in Europe. US experts at the Economic Commission for Europe who examined ERP nations' third quarter import requirements, believe that, while there is no current European surplus of timber, nitrate fertilizers, mining machinery or electric power equipment, a substantial portion of the coal, steel and railway cars requested from the US could be supplied by European sources. Poland, Italy and the UK currently have surplus coal and coke; Belgium-Luxemburg has 180,000 tons of surplus finished steel. Furthermore, the ECE experts feel the need for US railway cars could be eliminated by use of idle

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Swiss, Italian and Belgian car-building capacity, plus more effective utilization of the Rhine and Low Country ports and rivers. A major problem, however, is how to finance such trade deals -- whether through local currencies or provision of US dollars by ECA.

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Soviet participation in WHO. Forty-four member nations, including the USSR, will send representatives to the First Session of the World Health Organization meeting in Geneva 24 June. An organization relatively divorced from political objectives, WHO is one of the few UN Specialized Agencies in which the USSR has evinced interest. Demonstrating an apparently genuine concern over developing stronger public health services, Soviet scientists and medical specialists have attended meetings of the Interim Commission since its inception. Frequent replacement of the representatives, however, suggests that the USSR wishes to discourage too intimate association with western scientists. A Deputy Minister of Public Health, who attended earlier sessions and cooperated actively with US representatives, was recalled and not heard from subsequently. Moreover, despite repeated assurances of its desire to share in Interim Commission scientific work, the USSR has never supplied the technicians it promised. The agenda facing the present four-man Soviet delegation led by Deputy Minister of Public Health, Vinogradov, calls for action on maternal and child health conditions and such critical world health problems as malaria and tuberculosis.

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